IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Michael WRAY   ) Re: Preliminary Amendment
)
Serial No.: Not yet assigned   )
) Our Ref: B-4052 618408-0
Filed: Concurrently herewith   )
)
For: "ELECTRONIC CERTIFICATE") Date: December 7, 2000

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Box New Patent Application
Washington, D.C., 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, it is respectfully requested that the following amendments be made to the Claims and Abstract:

<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

Claim 9, Line 1   Please delete "or claim 6".

Claim 10, Line 1   Please change "any one of the preceding claims" to --claim 1--.

Claim 11, Lines 1-2 Please change "any one of the preceding claims" to --claim 1--.

Claim 12, Line 4   Please change "any one of claims 1 to 10" to --claim 1--.

Claim 13, Line 4   Please change "any one of claims 1 to 10" to --claim 1--.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Lines 5-6   Please delete "Method and Apparatus for Discovering a Trust Chain Imparting a Required Attribute to a Subject".

Line 10   Please delete "(70)".

Line 17   Please delete "(Fig.5)".

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment amends Claims 9-13 so that they are no longer multiply dependent. The Applicant may elect to amend Claims 9-13 to make them again multiply dependent or to add additional claims to this application to provide coverage similar to, broader than or narrower than the present claims at any time during the pendency of the above-identified U.S. application.

This Preliminary Amendment also amends the Abstract to correct various typographical errors.

Respectfully submitted,

John Palmer
Reg. No. 36,885
Attorney for Applicant
LADAS & PARRY
5670 Wilshire Boulevard #2100
Los Angeles, California 90036
(323) 934-2300